



A Newsletter for Recycling Coordinators

## DHEC, Greenville, MUSC win WasteWise awards

The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), the City of Greenville and the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) have received awards for efforts to reduce waste, increase recycling and buy recycled products from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) WasteWise program. The awards were presented at the WasteWise Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C. on October 14-15, 2004.

DHEC received WasteWise awards as State Government Partner of the Year and Endorser of the Year. DHEC was one of only 12 organizations to receive a Partner of the Year Award. The State Government Partner of the Year Award acknowledges exemplary waste reduction efforts while the Endorser of the Year award recognizes efforts to encourage other organizations to reduce their waste and join WasteWise. This is the fourth consecutive year that DHEC has been recognized, receiving a total of seven national awards.

"WasteWise is a one-stop program that is simple to do yet provides in-depth information, support, examples to follow and the necessary tools for organizations to meet waste reduction goals," said Richard Chesley, manager of the Education and Technical Assistance Section of DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling, which oversees the WasteWise program. "WasteWise enhances and supports our mission of promoting public health and protecting the environment. It's a perfect fit."

Chesley said the City of Greenville and MUSC received Rookie Reporter Awards as first-time WasteWise reporters whose programs show outstanding potential in the areas of waste prevention, recycling and buying recycled products. MUSC received an Honorable Mention Award in the College/University Category in recognition of its on-campus efforts.

"We are excited to see the City of Greenville and MUSC recognized for their outstanding programs," Chesley said. "They should be proud of their accomplishments and certainly serve as an inspiration to others."

WasteWise is a free, voluntary partnership program begun by the U.S. EPA in 1994 to provide guidance and recognition to the more than 1,400 organizations working to find

practical methods to reduce municipal solid waste and improve financial performance. Any U.S. organization may join the program.

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling serves as the contact for WasteWise in South Carolina. For more information on WasteWise, visit the U.S. EPA at [www.epa.gov/wastewise](http://www.epa.gov/wastewise) or call DHEC's Recycling hot line at 1-800-768-7348.

### Culler retires from DHEC's recycling office

William W. "Bill" Culler retired from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) on January 1, 2005, after 32 years of service.



Culler

Culler's career began with the Bureau of Air Quality. He was the director of the Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling for the past 12 years.

"My years working with air issues and then the Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling were most rewarding," Culler said. "It was exciting to be a part of an endeavor that addressed unregulated air emissions. It also was exciting to start a program that focused on improving solid waste management. Both programs started from scratch."

Under Culler's leadership, DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling provided grant funding, technical assistance and education programs to assist local governments and schools in developing recycling

programs across the state. Many of the programs developed have received national recognition and have played an integral role in the state's recycling success story.

"We were fortunate in 1991 to have the state legislature pass comprehensive legislation (S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act) that addressed the management of solid waste from disposal, to waste reduction, to recycling," Culler said. "And just as important was adequate funding to carry out the mandates of the law."

"My last job as director of the Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling will be remembered by the lasting friendships I have made with staff, local governments, the Carolina Recycling Association and others," Culler said. "I have always been amazed with the dedication of so many people who are determined to do their part to increase recycling rates in South Carolina."

Culler has no plans at this time except to better his golf game, make some repairs around the house and spend more time with his family and church.

## Office Depot to collect, recycle rechargeable batteries

Office Depot has partnered with the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) – a non-profit, public service organization dedicated to recycling rechargeable batteries and cell phones – to collect used cell phones and rechargeable batteries for recycling. All 950 Office Depot locations in the United States and Canada will participate in the program.

Office Depot will collect all old cell phones and used rechargeable batteries free of charge for recycling. The type of batteries collected include nickel cadmium (Ni-Cd), nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH), lithium ion (Li-ion) and small sealed lead (Pb) batteries weighing less than two pounds. These batteries are commonly found in portable electronic products like cordless and cellular phones, laptop computers, PDAs, digital cameras and portable printers.

All rechargeable batteries collected in partnership with RBRC are recycled at a reclamation facility in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania with no by-products sent to a landfill.

A portion of the proceeds received from resale benefits select charities including the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

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## America Recycles Day 2004 celebrated; Moore named South Carolina winner

South Carolina celebrated America Recycles Day on November 15 with special programs at schools, displays at stores, presentations and electronics recycling events.

The state also collected more than 30,700 America Recycles Challenge Cards as part of the year-long national promotion of recycling.

"Once again South Carolina has proven it has one of the best America Recycles efforts in the country," said Steve Kullen, national coordinator for America Recycles. "While cards are still being counted, South Carolina's hard work will place the state in the top three in the nation."

America Recycles, first celebrated in 1997, is a year-long campaign with events and promotions culminating on November 15 to promote recycling and buying products made from recycled materials.

One of the centerpiece efforts of the national campaign is to have residents sign cards pledging to recycle and buy recycled. South Carolina collected 30,714 challenge cards. These cards were entered into a drawing for prizes at the state level and then forwarded to the national America Recycles organization for their drawing. National prizes include



*Y Junior, from DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling, and Chippy, mascot for Oconee County Recycling, present Shelby Moore of Fair Play with the state's grand prize, a \$1,000 check from the S.C. Soft Drink Association.*

a Ford Escape Hybrid and Trek bicycles made from recycled aluminum.

Shelby Moore of Fair Play in Oconee County won the state's grand prize, \$1,000, sponsored by the S.C. Soft Drink Association. Moore filled out a challenge card at the Westminster Apple Festival.

"We encourage all residents to participate in their local recycling programs," said Jay Hicks, executive director of the S.C. Soft Drink Association. "Recycling saves natural resources and plays an important role in protecting the environment."

Several events also took place around the state including six "Recycling Adventures" for fourth- and fifth-grade students. Local recycling coordinators staffed displays at Lowe's, Wal-Mart and Earth Fare stores. Many recycling presentations were given at schools across the state.

This was the eighth year South Carolina has participated in America Recycles efforts. Visit [www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/ard.html](http://www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/ard.html) for South Carolina-specific information or [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org) for national campaign efforts.

## B-RAP awards fluorescent lamp recycling grants

The Business Recycling Assistance Program (B-RAP) has awarded grants to four local governments to implement fluorescent lamp recycling programs.

Dorchester, Georgetown and York Counties as well as the City of Rock Hill will use grant funds to provide collection services as well as develop educational materials to promote the importance of recycling fluorescent and other mercury-containing lamps. These grants have been funded as part of a grant received by B-RAP from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to promote the recycling of mercury lamps.

For more information on fluorescent lamp recycling, visit [www.scdhec.gov/brap](http://www.scdhec.gov/brap) or call 1-800-768-7348.

# Dorchester County receives three national KAB awards

Dorchester County's Keep America Beautiful (KAB) affiliate recently won three awards at the National KAB Conference in Washington, D.C.

National KAB President Raymond Empson presented Keep Dorchester County Beautiful (KDCB) and Berkeley County KAB with the 2004 First Place "Rogers" Award for Local Television Advertising. KDCB also won a 2004 KAB Affiliate Second Place Waste Reduction Award for its outstanding community improvement programs.

In addition, the KAB affiliate received a Presidential Circle Award for complying with KAB national standards. Carolyn Tomlinson, director of KDCB, accepted the awards during the KAB Affiliate Awards Program.

"We are thrilled to be recognized for the hard work that was put into making the oil recycling commercial," said Tomlinson. "But more importantly we are excited about the positive impact the recycling and waste reduction message will have on our communities."



*Carolyn Tomlinson, Dorchester County recycling coordinator, accepts three awards on behalf of the county from National KAB President Raymond Empson during an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.*

Dorchester County also was invited to make an oral presentation on their award-winning recycling education programs. These presentations are selected from the top programs across the nation.

The KAB Affiliate Awards Program was established to recognize and support outstanding affiliates for successful programs that educate the public about litter prevention, "reduce, reuse, recycle" initiatives and organize local volunteer efforts to clean up, beautify and improve their community's environment.

## Southwire honors Melaro, DHEC staff

Eric Melaro and several other DHEC staff with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action Team recently were honored by the Southwire Corporation for their work at the Gaston Copper Recycling Corporation (GCRC) facility.



*Melaro*

The RCRA Corrective Action Team worked with Southwire Corporation, the previous facility owners and community leaders to address environmental contamination at the former GCRC facility in Gaston.

In honor of this collaborative spirit, Southwire Corporation recognized the RCRA Corrective Action Team members with framed prints for their teamwork and willingness to use innovative approaches at the facility. Through the efforts of everyone involved, site work progressed at an unprecedented pace, allowing the property to be returned to productive use more quickly.

Melaro currently is a program coordinator with DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling.

## Catch the recycling wave!

The Carolina Recycling Association (CRA) will be catching the recycling wave at its 15th Annual Conference & Trade Show at the Myrtle Beach Radisson Plaza Hotel and Convention Center on March 21- 24, 2005.

There will be something for everyone at this year's conference. Outstanding workshops and sessions featuring exceptional speakers as well as the annual golf tournament will be offered.

Register early for a special discount. Register early as a CRA member and enjoy an even greater discount. Call (919) 545-9050, e-mail [staff@cra-recycle.org](mailto:staff@cra-recycle.org) or visit [www.cra-recycle.org](http://www.cra-recycle.org) for information.

## Tire, used oil grant deadlines near

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling is soliciting grant proposals from counties and municipalities for the fiscal year 2006. We are offering applications for the Used Oil and Waste Tire/Automobile Dismantler Tire grants at this time.

Applications may be requested by calling 1-800-768-7348. We encourage you to have the applications e-mailed to you, however you may request a disk and/or hard copy if needed.

Applications must be submitted (postmarked) by Friday, April 1, 2005 in order to be eligible for consideration.

You may also fax your request to (803) 896-4001. If you have any concerns or questions, please call Jana White at (803) 896-4221 or Stefanie Vandiver at (803) 896-4229.



## Staff changes announced for City of Rock Hill, Horry County, DHEC

**Jennifer Wilford** has resigned her position as Recycling Educator with the City of Rock Hill.



*Wilford*

**Elly Manley** has resigned as recycling coordinator for Horry County. **Kendra Dickerson** has been named as her replacement.



*Manley*

**Hartsill Truesdale**, bureau chief of DHEC's Bureau of Land and Waste Management, has retired.



*Truesdale*

**William W. Culler**, director of DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office), has retired. See page 1 for more details. With his retirement, the Office has been moved under the Division of Mining and Solid Waste Management. **Arthur D. Braswell** serves as division director.

**Joyce Addison**, administrative assistant with the Office, has retired.

**Rudy Curtis**, manager of DHEC's Solid Waste Planning and Compliance Section, has retired.

**Pete Stevens** and **Celeste Duckett** have joined the staff of the Office due to restructuring within the Bureau of Land and Waste Management.

Stevens will continue his work with the "Solid Waste Management Annual Report," financial assurance and Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Operator Certification within the Office's Education and Technical Assistance Section.

Duckett will continue to work with solid waste planning for the state, counties and regions as well as consistency determinations within the Office's Grants and Trust Fund Administration Section.

## RC Calendar – January-April 2005

JANUARY 24 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Woodruff High School Green Driver Presentation, Mullins High School Green Driver Presentation, Ridge Spring-Monetta High School
JANUARY 25 .....	Green Driver Presentation, White Knoll High School Green Driver Presentation, Crestwood High School
JANUARY 26 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Lockhart High School Green Driver Presentation, Union High School Green Driver Presentation, Chapin High School
JANUARY 27 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Darlington High School "Action for a cleaner tomorrow" ("Action") Training, Francis Marion University Energy 2 Learn Presentation, Sandhills Intermediate School
JANUARY 28 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Midland High School Green Driver Presentation, Gilbert High School Green Driver Presentation, Timberland High School Green Driver Presentation, Hartsville High School
JANUARY 31 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Barnwell High School "Action" Training, Converse College
FEBRUARY 1 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Indian Land High School Green Driver Presentation, Barnwell High School
FEBRUARY 3 .....	"Energy 2 Learn" Presentation, Dutch Fork High School
FEBRUARY 4 .....	SOLID WASTE GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE Green Driver Presentation, Silver Bluff High School
FEBRUARY 9 .....	Green Driver Presentation, North Central High School
FEBRUARY 10 .....	Green Driver Presentation, McBee High School Green Driver Presentation, Sumter High School
FEBRUARY 11 .....	10TH ANNUAL RECYCLE GUYS AWARDS PROGRAM, Columbia
FEBRUARY 14 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Aiken High School
FEBRUARY 15 .....	Energy 2 Learn Presentation, Wade Hampton High School
FEBRUARY 18 .....	Green Driver Presentation, McCormick High School
FEBRUARY 22 .....	"Action" Training, University of South Carolina-Upstate Green Driver Presentation, Edisto High School Green Driver Presentation, Ridgeview High School
FEBRUARY 23 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Irmo High School
FEBRUARY 24 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Lake Marion High School Green Driver Presentation, Marion High School Green Driver Presentation, North High School Green Driver Presentation, Spring Valley High School
MARCH 1 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Creek Bridge High School Green Driver Presentation, Edisto High School Green Driver Presentation, Marion High School
MARCH 2 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Allendale-Fairfax High School
MARCH 8 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Lower Richland High School
MARCH 18 .....	"Action" Training, Ruth Patrick Science Green Driver Presentation, Broome High School
MARCH 21-24 .....	CAROLINA RECYCLING ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW, Myrtle Beach
MARCH 22 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Dillon High School
MARCH 24 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Lee Central High School Green Driver Presentation, Mullins High School
APRIL 4 .....	Green Driver Presentation, Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School

# Scrap Metal Update

*This article is provided by Steven Siegel, Vice president of Ferrous Sales, Carolina Recycling Group.*

The year 2004 will long be remembered as the best year ever for ferrous scrap metal. Prices for many grades traded at three times their historical highs with industrial scrap surpassing \$400 per gross ton (GT) after breaking the \$200 per GT barrier for the first time in late 2003.

The year started seasonally strong and then began an anticipated correction with lower pricing in the spring. During the summer, the supply of scrap tightened just as steel mill operating rates were increasing. In addition, a freight shortage created delivery concerns and some mills began to run out of select grades of raw material. A buying frenzy ensued where mills tried to secure iron units from all available sources regardless of location. Prices continued to show surprising resiliency in the fall as ferrous scrap moved to new highs with the peak occurring in late October to early November. Finally, at the end of the year, prices began to decline as mill inventory was better aligned with production requirements.

Despite these higher costs for scrap metal and other raw material, 2004 was still a banner year for steel mills themselves. Orders for steel were strong and most mills found a way to pass on higher prices to their customers in the form of scrap surcharges that changed each month. The exception to this trend were foundries that were locked into annual agreements to supply their customers with castings at fixed prices. Automakers especially resisted the surcharges and foundries like Citation and Intermet filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection as a result.

The consolidation trend also continued in 2004. Charlotte-based Nucor Steel, with

three mills in the Carolinas, increased its market share to position itself with ISG Steel as the largest companies in the United States. ISG continued its pattern of rescuing failed mills (LTV, National Steel) by purchasing and restarting Georgetown (SC) Steel late in the year. ISG then announced a deal with Ispat Steel to form a new company – Mittal Steel – which would become the largest steel company in the world.

The new year is expected to be another strong one for ferrous scrap but few expect prices to surpass the record levels of 2004. The year will begin with another round of corrections as prices will settle down from historical highs. But few expect that prices will return to traditional levels any time soon. Most likely there has been a fundamental shift in the base price of scrap metal.

Optimism for 2005 is based on a healthy domestic economy and strong orders for steel. Any increase in export activity will benefit the price of scrap as the most recent run occurred with little pressure from foreign markets. The scrap metal market tends to reflect the leading edge of the economic cycle and, if this holds true, we're in for a good year. Prices for metal-finished goods will be higher, but their impact on overall inflation is much less than other raw materials, such as petroleum-based products.

The consolidation trend will continue within the steel industry with fewer mills holding larger market shares. Electric arc furnace mills will improve their technology and capabilities as they move to replace older, less efficient and less environmentally friendly blast furnaces. Scrap metal will remain a global commodity of great value with increasing interest in the development and acquisition of alternative sources of iron units to prevent another supply crisis.

## Participate in Nike's Reuse-A-Shoe Program

You heard about it at the Recycling Coordinator Workshop. Now the Athletic Shoe Recycling Program is ready to go!

Sumter County has agreed, after contracting with Nike Corporation, to be a collection point for the company's Reuse-a-Shoe program. Pickens County also is in the process of contracting with Nike to serve as a consolidation point. Nike will send a truck once a year to these host counties to collect the shoes for grinding and recycling. All other local government recycling programs are encouraged to collect shoes and transport them to either Pickens or Sumter. In order for this program to be successful, a minimum of 5,000 pairs of shoes must be collected each year.

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office) has purchased adhesive-backed labels for use on containers to collect the athletic shoes. Instructions detailing what shoes are acceptable and not acceptable are printed on a weather resistant label that may be applied to cardboard, plastic or other containers.

Any local government recycling program may request the labels at no cost. To request labels, call the Office's Recycling hot line at **1-800-768-7348**. Holly Storey and Joan Williams are serving as the contacts for this recycling effort. If you decide to participate, please contact one of them with the locations of your collection points for the shoes.

Shoes may be collected at drop-off centers, curbside, schools, athletic centers or any other location. Consider contacting athletic associations and area sport leagues to form partnerships. Shoes may be collected for a limited time or continuously. While there are no firm commitments yet, the Office is looking for ways to make collection and transportation more convenient across the state.



# County News

## CHARLESTON COUNTY

Charleston County Solid Waste and Recycling Department (SWRD) recently expanded its electronics waste (e-waste) collection efforts to include collection at all eight staffed convenience centers located in rural areas of the county. Charleston County SWRD established the state's first permanent e-waste collection site in 2003 at the Bee's Ferry Road Landfill.

Now, residents in outlying areas of the county may drop off e-waste in containers at their local convenience centers. The electronic wastes are kept in containers, purchased with DHEC grant funding, that protect the materials from the elements until they are transported to the permanent facility at Bee's Ferry Road Landfill.

In addition to collecting e-waste at both the Bee's Ferry Road Landfill and the staffed convenience centers, Charleston County SWRD also offers the collection of household hazardous materials (HHM).

With a mobile unit, Charleston County SWRD recently has expanded its program to include HHM and e-waste collection days to larger communities throughout the county.

In July, the first on-site residential HHM collection event was held in Mt. Pleasant at Brickyard Subdivision. Electronics, gasoline, oil, paint,

antifreeze, pesticides and cooking oil were among the materials collected during the event. Afterwards, the materials were transported to the Bee's Ferry Road Landfill for proper handling and recycling.

Charleston County SWRD recently added fluorescent lamps for recycling at its convenience centers. This same service also has been implemented in all county buildings and is handled by the Charleston County General Services Department.

## GEORGETOWN COUNTY

Georgetown County recently purchased a 12-cubic yard rear loader truck for their office paper recycling program with partial funding from a grant award by DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling.

Paper is collected weekly from 92 businesses and all public schools in the county. The mixed paper (newspaper, cardboard and office paper) is brought back to a materials recovery facility where it is sorted and baled.

While the program is still in the early stages, it has already impacted Georgetown County's recycling efforts.

## OCONEE COUNTY

Oconee County will celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 23 at High Falls Park from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities

will be scheduled throughout the day including presentations of "Litter Trashes Everyone!" by Columbia Marionette Theatre and "Little Creek of Horrors" by Oconee Community Theatre.

Oconee County – in conjunction with The Arts Company of Seneca – also will hold a juried art contest in celebration of Earth Day 2005. This is an Oconee County juried competition including submissions in the following categories: found objects; old materials; recycled items; art from natural resources; and art depicting the natural environment. Artists 16 years or older will be judged in these categories.

"The purpose of this show is to raise awareness of what we can do to sustain our environment for future generations," said Melissa Grant, Oconee County solid waste director.

"Showing how we can responsibly use our natural resources and the products we create from them is one of our goals. The other goal is to heighten public appreciation of our natural environment."

Artists who submit works must be residents of Oconee County. Everyone is invited to attend this event.

For more information about the event, call (864) 888-1440 or visit [www.oconeesc.com](http://www.oconeesc.com).

*This newsletter is printed on RECYCLED content paper.*

